

# 2012

## Wisconsin Trapping Regulations



Photo by: Kristin Kroening

**Celebrating 75 years of Hunter-Funded Support**

**Wildlife and Sport Fish  
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1937 - 2012**

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*Eric Kroening trapped his first otter during the 2011-2012 trapping season. His daughter, Alicia, went with him to check traps on the day he trapped the otter. Alicia's favorite saying for the rest of the day was "We got an otter!"*

This booklet gives you a summary of Wisconsin's most important trapping laws and how they affect you; it is not a complete set of laws.



**Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources  
PUB-WM-002 2012**



## ***Dear Trapper,***

*With the 2012 trapping season, we begin with new opportunities in the world of furbearer management. The combination of Wisconsin's diverse natural resources and the cooperation and responsible actions of all citizens has allowed for a continued, regulated harvest of select species. The Wisconsin Cooperative Trapper Education Program continues to grow and strengthen with new trappers taking up this time-honored tradition, but doing so with the help and guidance of knowledgeable, seasoned trappers. With this strong mentoring system, new trappers learn about basic biology of furbearers, the role of furbearers in our world, their role in responsible management, trapper ethics, and trapper responsibilities.*

*Have a great time out there! Learn new skills, respect others' needs, and take a friend or family member with you. Through your responsible actions, non-trappers will have a greater appreciation of what makes an ethical trapper one of the finest naturalists in our region. Prior to, during, and after the trapping season, act as if the future of trapping depends on your actions – because it does! Have a safe, productive and memorable season.*

*John F. Olson  
Furbearer Specialist*

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## **What's New in 2012**

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- Storage of personal property on DNR lands is prohibited except for trail cameras that meet the DNR's authorization requirements (see page 8). This prohibition includes trap stakes and other materials used to mark trapping locations when the season is not open.
- Wolf trapping regulations will be available in mid-August. Updates and additional information can be found on the DNR's website, [dnr.wi.gov](http://dnr.wi.gov), keyword: 'wolf'.
- You may not set, place, or operate any **steel-jawed trap** with a spread width of more than 7 inches from Oct. 15-Nov. 30 unless it is a water set, or with a spread width of more than 8 inches from Dec. 1, 2012 - Feb. 28, 2013.

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The Department of Natural Resources is committed to serving people with disabilities. If you need this information in an alternative format, please call 608-266-8204.

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## Definitions

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**Body Grip Trap**—means a steel trap designed to allow the animal's head, neck, or torso to enter the trap opening and be held by compression of the jaws when sprung.

**Cable Restraint**—means a wire noose used for restraining furbearing animals which does NOT allow the device or trapped animal to reach unfrozen water.

**Cage or Box Trap**—means a trap that is designed to allow an animal to enter the trap enclosure, be captured, and remain alive inside the cage or box-type enclosure until it can be released unharmed or reduced to possession by the operator of the trap. This trap may not be used as a water set or with any other type of trap.

**Capable of Drowning**—means a set designed to allow the trapped animal to travel to water of sufficient depth to cause drowning. Slide wires or poles, locking devices, slip chains, weighted traps, and traps staked in deep water are commonly used in drowning sets.

**Colony Trap**—means an enclosure-type device that allows for the capture of one or more animals in a single set. See size and placement restrictions on page 14.

**Dry Set**—means a trap set or staked to be completely on dry land with no possibility of the trap or trapped animal reaching water that is not frozen.

**Enclosed Trigger Trap**—means any trap with a pull-activated trigger located inside an enclosure and recessed 1¼ inches or more from an opening that is no greater than 1¾ inches in diameter.

**Furbearing Animal**—for the purpose of this pamphlet means bobcat, fisher, otter, coyote, raccoon, red fox, gray fox, mink, muskrat, beaver, skunk, weasel, and opossum.

**Sight Exposed Bait**—means any bait which can be seen from above.

**Snare**—means a wire noose used for restraining furbearing animals in a water set.

**Steel Jawed Trap**—means a trap constructed of metal designed to catch an animal by the foot, but does not include enclosed trigger traps or body gripping traps.

**Water Set**—means a trap or snare which is set or staked in a manner to permit the trap, snare, or trapped animal to reach water that is not frozen.

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## Animals Protected at All Times

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The following wild animals are designated protected and have no open season: badger, Canada lynx, cougar, flying squirrel, moose, American marten, white/albino deer, woodchuck, wolverine, and any other species designated endangered or threatened.

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## Special Rule Clarifications

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- **Trapping Along Roadsides:** Permission to trap road right-of-ways can be a complex issue. Most right-of-ways are owned by either the state or the local

unit of government; however in some cases, the adjoining landowner still maintains ownership of the underlying land. Trappers must have permission from the owner of the land underlying any public road, street, or highway before trapping these locations.

- **Trapping Navigable Waterways:** Trapping on private land in Wisconsin, including on the beds of navigable waters, may constitute a trespass (enforced by the county sheriff's department). *Trappers need to obtain permission before trapping on any private land, even if entry is by public waterways.*
- **Preseason Marking of Trap Sites:** Using stakes or other devices to mark a trap site anywhere prior to the season opener is not allowed on DNR managed lands, and is not recommended on other public lands. It does not legally reserve the site for the person placing the stake or markers.
- **Unprotected Species:** Opossums, skunks, and weasels are unprotected and may be trapped year-round by persons possessing a trapping license. A trapping license is not required for landowners or occupants trapping unprotected species causing damage or which are otherwise a nuisance.

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## Wildlife Violator Compact

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The State of Wisconsin is a participating member of the **Wildlife Violator Compact**. The Wildlife Violator Compact is an agreement between participating states that prohibits a person whose hunting, fishing, or trapping privileges are suspended in one state from obtaining licenses and permits or participating in those activities in another state.

- If your hunting, trapping, or fishing privileges are suspended or revoked for a fish or wildlife related violation by any of the member states, you may not engage in those activities in Wisconsin, or purchase any license, permit, or tag that authorizes those activities in Wisconsin during the period of the revocation or suspension.
- If a person is cited for a wildlife violation in Wisconsin and fails to pay or appear in court, Wisconsin will revoke all that person's hunting, fishing, and trapping privileges and will communicate that information to that person's home state for purposes of revocation by their home state. **The participating states include:** AK, AL, AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, ND, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, WA, WI, WV, and WY. *Additional states may have joined the compact since the printing of this pamphlet.*

**Trap and Animal Theft:** Stealing or molesting traps, cable restraints, snares, animals, or the contents of any lawfully placed trap, cable restraint, or snare is a criminal act and is punishable by fine (\$300-\$1,000), imprisonment (up to 90 days) or both, and a mandatory 5-year revocation of license.

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## License and Permit Information

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1. **Resident:** \$20, **Non-Resident** \$150. Wisconsin allows trapping by non-resident U.S. citizens from those states that allow Wisconsin residents to purchase non-resident licenses and trap in that state. This includes all states **except** Hawaii, Michigan, Minnesota, and Washington D.C. Non-resident licenses require the successful completion of the Wisconsin Trapper Education Course (see pages 29–30) or completion of a comparable, as determined by the Wisconsin DNR, Trapper Education course in another state. Non-resident trappers are subject to all seasons and regulations that pertain to the state of Wisconsin.
2. **Age:** No age restrictions apply to trapping. All trappers must obtain a trapping license regardless of age. A minimum age of 10 years is recommended for successful completion of a Trapper Education program. All first time trappers must complete the Wisconsin Trapper Education course (page 29) prior to purchasing a license. **A certificate of successful completion of the Wisconsin Trapper Education course may be used by a resident in place of a trapping license (for species other than wolf) for the trapping license year in which the certificate is issued. A bobcat, fisher, or otter permit and tag are still required.**
3. **Use: *You may not:***
  - transfer your license, permit, or tag, or allow its use by anyone else, except as provided on page 15.
  - carry any trapping license, permit, or tag issued to anyone else.
  - obtain a trapping license, permit, or tag for someone else except a parent may purchase for their minor child/children.
4. **Landowner Provisions:** The owner or occupant of any land and any family members who live with them *do not need a license to:*
  - trap coyote, beaver, fox, raccoon, woodchuck, rabbit, and squirrel on the land year-round (see ‘Beaver Damage Control’ on page 18 for more information).
  - live trap with cage or box traps for beaver, coyote, fox, woodchuck, rabbit, raccoon, and squirrel on their land at any time in cities, villages, or other areas where the discharge of firearms is unlawful. Live-trapped animals must be either humanely killed or released within 24 hours on unenclosed private land with the landowner’s permission.
5. **Duplicates:** You can acquire a duplicate trapping license at any license outlet with your personal identification and, preferably, your DNR customer number. Duplicate trapper education certificates are also available through the DNR in Madison. Please call (608) 261-6452.
6. **Purchasing Fur:** You must possess a Fur Dealers License, Taxidermist Permit, or a specific DNR permit to purchase raw fur (defined on page 14) for the purpose of making garments for yourself or a member of your family.
7. **Animals Causing Damage:** During the closed season, a DNR permit may be required to remove nuisance animals. Call the DNR Call Center at 1-888-936-7463 for more information.

8. **Horicon National Wildlife Refuge and Horicon Marsh State Wildlife Area:** Trapping at these locations is authorized on a permit system only, and special regulations apply. Permit details are available through:

**Horicon National Wildlife Refuge**  
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service  
Refuge Manager  
W4279 Headquarters Rd.  
Mayville, WI 53050  
(920) 387-2658

**Horicon Marsh State Wildlife Area**  
WI DNR  
Property Manager  
N7725 Highway 28  
Horicon, WI 53032  
(920) 387-7860

9. **Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge:** Special trapping permits are required. For more information contact:

**Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge**  
Headquarters Office, 51 E. 4th Street, Winona, MN 55987  
or (507) 452-4232

10. **Apostle Islands National Lakeshore:** Access permits are required for the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore. Contact the park for permits and further information: Park Superintendent, 415 Washington Avenue, Bayfield, WI 54814; (715) 779-3397.

11. **Trempealeau National Wildlife Refuge:** Trapping is authorized on a permit system only, and special regulations apply. For more information contact: (608) 539-2311 ext. 16; visit [www.fws.gov/midwest/trempealeau](http://www.fws.gov/midwest/trempealeau); or write Trempealeau National Wildlife Refuge, W28488 Refuge Road, Trempealeau, WI 54661.

12. **Necedah National Wildlife Refuge:** Trapping is authorized on a permit system only, and special regulations apply. For more information, contact:

**Necedah National Wildlife Refuge**  
N11385 Headquarters Road, Necedah WI 54660, or (608) 565-2551.

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## Mississippi River Zone

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- **For 2012, the muskrat and mink seasons in the Mississippi River Zone open on November 12.** If the duck season closes prior to November 11, the trapping season will begin the day following the end of the duck hunting season.
- On lands managed by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service as part of the Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge (UMRNWFR) and located within the Mississippi River Zone, the otter, raccoon, coyote, and fox seasons open with the muskrat and mink seasons. The beaver season dates are not affected, but otter trapping on refuge lands ends March 15 when all trapping on the refuge closes. **Trapping on federal lands within the Mississippi River Zone involves obtaining a Refuge Trapping Permit issued by the USFWS, a restriction on number of traps allowed, trap placement, time of the trapping opener, and trap check hours.** To obtain Refuge Trapping Permits, contact the UMRNWFR (see above).

- On private lands within the Mississippi River Zone, the trapping seasons for raccoon, coyote, and fox are the same as the regular state season dates (see page 21).
- The success of this season framework rests with the trapping and hunting community. If seasons overlap, trappers can minimize contact with waterfowl hunters by setting and checking traps on weekdays, checking traps during mid-day, pulling trap lines prior to the weekend, asking hunters for permission to check traps in areas where hunters are set up, and approaching areas with hunters only when ducks are not flying. Duck hunters can help by being aware of trapper presence, and encouraging mid-day trap checks.
- Trappers, please take special care when trapping on uplands. We recommend you consider refraining from placing upland sets until after the close of the duck season.
- There are many who use and enjoy the amazing resources of the Mississippi River. Please remain courteous and accommodate each other's needs.

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## Use of Trail Cameras on Department-Managed Lands

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The placement and unattended, overnight, use of trail cameras is authorized on department lands only under the following conditions:

- 1) Placement only occurs in areas where hunting is allowed and outside of designated special use zones (such as designated hiking trails, beaches, buildings);
- 2) Trail cameras bear the name and address or department issued customer identification number of the owner or operator permanently attached or engraved to the outside of the camera so that it is clearly visible without the need to move or adjust the camera;
- 3) Cameras may not cause damage to natural vegetation or other department property;
- 4) The placement of trail cameras on department managed lands is done at your own risk. The department will not be responsible for theft or damage of trail cameras on department managed lands.

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## Trap Checking Requirements

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**Dry Set**—Dry sets must be attended and checked at least once each day and any captured animals removed from the set.

**Water set**—Water sets must be attended and checked at least once each day and any captured animals removed from the set—unless the set is a drowning set.

**Drowning Set**—Sets capable of drowning must be attended and checked within a 4-day period following the last tending of the set. Any captured animals must be removed from the set unless it is an under ice set. You must monitor water levels to ensure effective drowning sets.

**Under Ice Set**—There are no mandated trap checking periods for sets made under the ice.

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## Trapping Hours

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Legal trapping hours are from 4:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M. provided the season is open.

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## Trap Size & Placement Restrictions

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**Consider all set placement to avoid contact with humans and domestic animals.** When using body-grip traps on dry land, the use of enclosures and elevated sets is strongly encouraged. The ability to continue to use body-grip traps in the future depends on responsible use now!

### *You may not:*

- set, place, or operate any wateset traps with a jaw spread smaller than 5½ inches for steel-jawed traps, or 60 square inches or less for body-grip traps, **except when the muskrat or mink season is open in the zone you are trapping.**
- set, place, or operate more than 3 feet above the ground any trap or device designed or used to capture or kill birds.
- use sight exposed bait consisting of feathers, animal flesh, fur, hide, or entrails within 25 feet of any trap, snare, or cable restraint.
- operate trap sets which permit the trapped animal to reach water, *except* when the muskrat, mink, beaver, or otter trapping season is open in the zone you are trapping, or unless using a commercially manufactured enclosed trigger trap.
- set a trap, cable restraint, or snare other than a commercially manufactured enclosed trigger trap closer than 15 feet from any beaver dam (landowners see 'Beaver Damage Control' on page 18).
- set, place, or operate any **body-grip trap** that is 75 square inches or larger *unless one-half of the trap is located underwater at all times.*
- set, place, or operate any **body-grip trap** greater than 60 square inches or any snare or cable restraint, regardless of the size of the noose, in the following locations:
  1. within 3 feet of any federal, state, or county road right-of-way culvert unless completely submerged in water;
  2. within 3 feet of any woven or welded wire fence; or
  3. within 100 yards of any building devoted to human occupancy without the owner's consent.
- set, place, or operate any **steel-jawed trap** with teeth unless such traps are located completely underwater at all times.
- set, place, or operate any **steel-jawed trap** with a spread width of more than 7 inches from Oct. 15-Nov. 30 unless it is a water set, or with a spread width of more than 8 inches from Dec. 1, 2012 - Feb. 28, 2013.
- set, place, or operate any **snare**, regardless of the noose size, *unless one half of the snare noose is located underwater at all times.*

- set, place, or operate any **snare** unless the noose cable and noose attachments conform to the following specifications:
  1. Cable length may not exceed 5 feet;
  2. Cable must be galvanized aircraft cable;
  3. The cable or wire diameter may not exceed 1/8 inch; and
  4. It must be non-spring activated.

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## Methods

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All live furbearing animals taken during the open season for such species shall be released unharmed or killed immediately and made part of the daily bag. It is unlawful to keep such animals alive after their capture, unless you have first obtained a DNR permit, license, or authorization to possess the animal alive.

**Note:** A trapping license does not allow the possession of trapped wild animals that are alive and a Captive Wild Animal Farm license does not allow trapping or possession of live wild animals trapped from the wild.

Elevated traps are legal for furbearing animals as long as the sight exposed bait law is followed (see below for specific regulations for body-grip traps).

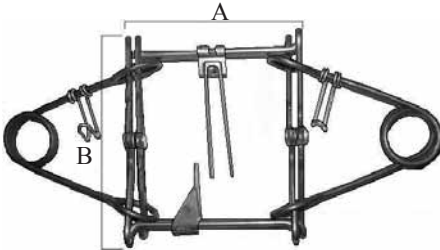
### ***You may not:***

- place any set or sprung trap, snare, cable restraint, bait, or scent for furbearing animals during the closed season.
- set any trap, which includes cable restraints and snares for which a trapping license is required, unless a metal tag is attached. The tag must be stamped or engraved legibly with the name and address of the operator or their customer ID number. Heavy-duty stamped tags are recommended.
- take or attempt to take beaver, fisher, mink, muskrat, or otter by any means other than trapping or snaring. **Note:** Landowners, occupants, or their family members at least 10 years of age who live with them may take beaver by firearm on their land (hunting mentorship program rules apply, see *2012 Wisconsin Small Game Regulations* for details).
- possess any trap for the purpose of catching furbearing animals other than a steel-jawed trap, cage/box trap, enclosed trigger trap, body-grip trap, cable restraint, snare, or colony trap. Cage or box traps shall be constructed so that after an animal has been captured no additional animals may enter until that animal is removed and the trap reset.
- disturb or molest any mink den, muskrat house, muskrat feeding house, or beaver dam (see page 18 for landowner exception for beaver dams).
- place on the ice any artificial house or den for the purpose of catching any furbearing animal.
- molest or take traps, cable restraints, snares, or trapped animals that belong to someone else. See page 5 for more information.

# Body-Grip Trap Regulations

No person may set, place, or operate any body-grip trap **greater than 60 but less than 75 square inches**, measured from the widest points on the outside of the jaws (Figure 1), as a:

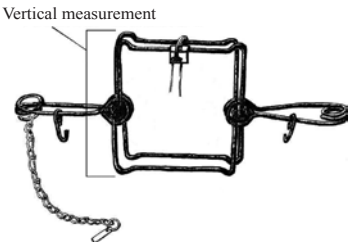
- **water set** unless at least one-half of the set trap is located underwater at all times;
- **elevated set** unless the trap is placed at least 5 feet above the surface;
- **bottom entry enclosure set**—unless the entire opening of the enclosure is no more than 7 inches above the surface;
- **baited and/or scented set in or on the ground** unless the trap trigger is within an enclosure that provides openings no greater than 50 square inches for a 7 inch recess, OR, an 8 inch height by 10 inch width opening with a 10 inch minimum recess from the enclosure openings; or
- **unbaited and/or unscented trail set** unless the trap is within an enclosure that provides openings no greater than 10 inches in height and 10 inches in width and is recessed a minimum of 15 inches from the enclosure openings.



**Figure 1.** Multiply the maximum width of the trap jaws (A) by the height of the trap jaws (B) to determine the maximum square inches of the unset trap. This is an example of how to determine the square inches for a body-grip trap. Body-grip trap designs vary.

The measurement to the surface is the distance to the first surface beneath the trap or opening where the surface is ground, ice, crusted or packed snow, or any other hard material. For the purposes of this section, an enclosure means any single unit device that creates a barrier to the trap allowing entry only through designated openings.

To set, place, or operate any body-grip trap 60 square inches or less, it must have a maximum vertical jaw measurement of 7½ inches when set. The vertical measurement is taken from the widest points on the trap in the set position (Figure 2).



**Figure 2.** An example of how to measure the vertical height measurement of a trap when set.

Body-Grip Trap Size	Dry Land	Water
Less than or equal to 60 square inches	Legal	Legal
Between 60 and 75 square inches	Legal if enclosed or at least 5 feet off the ground	Legal
75 square inches or greater	NOT legal	Legal

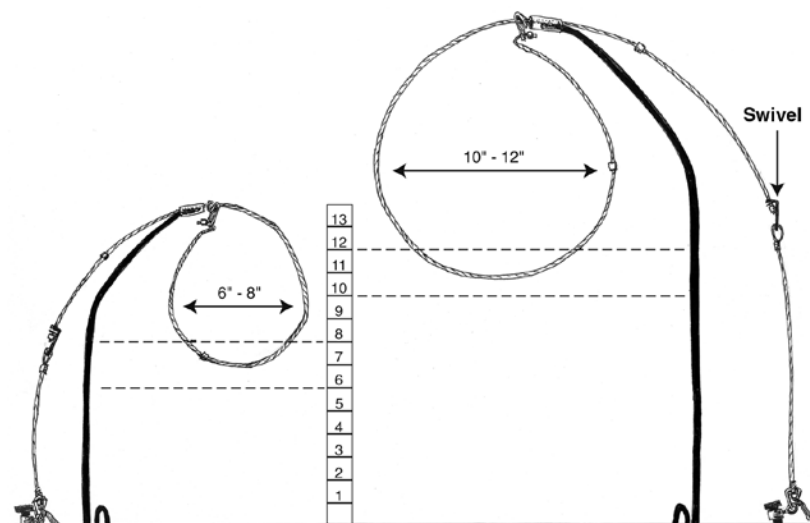
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## Cable Restraint Regulations

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### *You may not:*

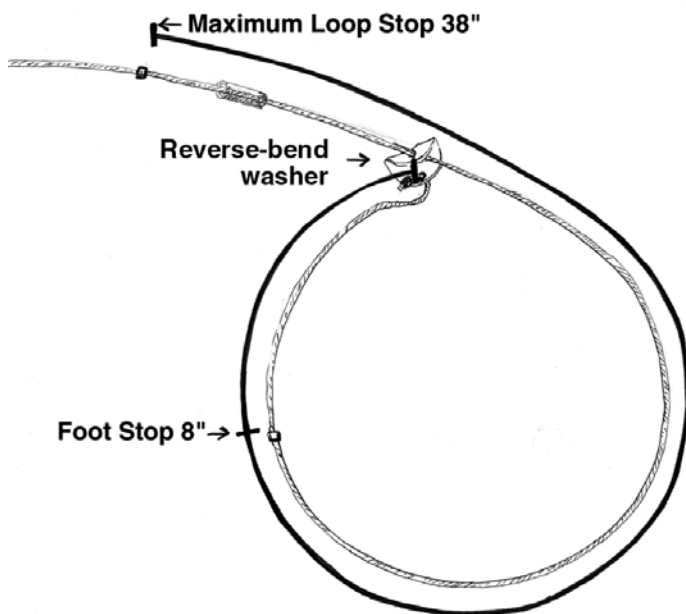
- set, place, or operate cable restraints for any species other than fox, coyote, wolf, and bobcat. See the Wolf Regulations (available in late summer 2012) for additional information on the wolf hunting and trapping season.
- set out or place a cable restraint, whether set or sprung, on public or private land except during the following dates:
  - December 1 - February 15 for coyote and fox.
  - December 1 - January 31 for bobcat.
- use cable restraints for removal of nuisance wildlife except for the species and during the dates listed above.
- stake a cable restraint in a manner that allows the restraint device to reach any part of a fence, rooted woody vegetation greater than ½ inch diameter, or any other immovable object or stake that could cause entanglement.
- set, place, or operate any cable restraint with the bottom of the loop less than 6 inches or greater than 12 inches above the first surface beneath the bottom of the set cable restraint loop (Figure 3), where the surface is ground, ice, crusted or packed snow, or any other hard surface.



**Figure 3.** Loop heights and size varies depending on the intended species; coyote, bobcat, or fox. Multiple swivels are recommended on a cable restraint, however only a single swivel is required.

- set, place, or operate any cable restraint unless the noose cable and noose attachments conform to the following specifications:
  1. cable length may not exceed 7 feet;
  2. cable must be galvanized aircraft cable and include a swivel;
  3. it must be non-spring activated;
  4. cable must be made of multiple strands of wire, with a diameter of 3/32 inch or larger;
  5. include a breakaway device or stop rated at 285 pounds or less;
  6. include a relaxing reverse-bend washer lock with a minimum outside diameter of 1¼ inches; and
  7. include cable stops affixed to the cable to ensure that the portion of the cable that makes up the noose loop may not be longer than 38 inches when fully open, or less than 8 inches when fully closed (Figure 4).

**NOTE:** Rules specific to the use of cable restraints for trapping wolves are being developed. Updates and additional information pertaining to wolf trapping are available on the DNR's website, [dnr.wi.gov](http://dnr.wi.gov), keyword: 'wolf'.



**Figure 4.** The maximum and minimum loop size for cable restraints is easily measured by circumference. The minimum loop stop is set at 8 inches and the maximum loop stop is set at 38 inches from the reverse-bend washer end of the cable. This results in a loop no smaller than 2½ inches in diameter nor larger than 12 inches in diameter.

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## Colony Traps

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Colony traps, enclosure-type devices that allow for the capture of one or more animals in a single set, are legal to use for trapping muskrat only. Mink that are incidentally captured in colony traps placed for muskrats can be retained.

### ***You may not:***

- set, place, or operate a colony trap with a length exceeding 36 inches, or height and width exceeding 6 inches. If using a round (tube-shaped) trap, the diameter cannot exceed 6 inches.
- set, place, or operate a colony trap within 3 feet of any culvert.
- place natural or artificial materials to funnel animals into the trap.
- place bait, including scent, in the trap or at the set location.
- place, set, or operate a colony trap that is not completely underwater.

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## Possession Restrictions

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**Definitions:** (1) ***Raw fur*** means the undressed or untanned skins or pelts of any furbearing animal, including ones that have been stretched and dried. (2) ***Green pelts*** include a skin that has not been removed from the carcass, or the pelt of any furbearing animal that has been removed, but has not been tanned or fleshed, stretched, and dried.

### ***You may not:***

- possess the green pelts of any bobcat, fisher, or otter, beginning on the 6th day after the season closes unless the pelt has a valid registration tag attached.
- possess any mink, muskrat, fisher, or otter pelt that has been shot or speared.
- possess any raw fisher, mink, muskrat, or otter pelt at any time without a current trapping or fur dealer's license or other appropriate special license or permit issued by the DNR.
- ship fur unless the outside of the container is marked with the number and type of species being shipped, and the name, address, and trapping license number of the shipper.

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## Special Regulations—Bobcat, Fisher, and Otter

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### **Permits and Tags**

Starting in 2012, paper applications for bobcat, otter, and fisher permits are not offered. Applications can be submitted by visiting any license sales location, online at [dnr.wi.gov](http://dnr.wi.gov), or by phone at 1-877-WI-LICENSE (1-877-945-4236). Trappers can submit their application choices for bobcat, otter, and fisher at the same time they pay the \$3.00 application fee for a fisher or otter application or \$6 fee for a bobcat application.

Applicants have the option of applying for a preference point only or to be entered into the drawing for a permit(s). If an applicant makes the choice to be entered into the drawing and is selected for a permit the applicant will lose all preference

points, even if the permit is not used. Applicants who fail to apply for either a preference point or a permit at least once during any 3-consecutive years will lose all previously accumulated preference points.

**Note:** Conservation Patron License holders who did not submit their application choices for otter and fisher at the time they purchased their license must now apply online or through a DNR Service Center.

The deadline to submit application choices for bobcat, otter, and fisher permits is **August 1, 2012**. Applicants who apply for a bobcat permit must choose one of the two bobcat seasons.

## Application Fees

Species	Patron Licence Holders	Trapping License Holders
Bobcat	\$6.00	\$6.00
Fisher	Free*	\$3.00
Otter	Free*	\$3.00

\* Patron License holders still need to register their application choices.

## Transfer of Bobcat, Fisher or Otter Permits

A person who has been issued a bobcat, fisher, or otter permit may apply to transfer that permit to a youth under the age of 18 no later than 15 days before the open season. The youth receiving the permit will retain his/her accumulated preference points. A youth may only be the recipient of each type of transferred permit once. If you wish to transfer your permit please contact the DNR Call Center (1-888-936-7463) for more information.

### *You may not:*

- possess or have under control any bobcat, fisher, or otter carcass unless you immediately validate, attach, and seal your pelt tag through the opening of the animal's mouth to the opening of its eye, immediately beneath the skin (see instructions on the pelt tag for further details). The pelt and DNR registration tags shall remain attached to the pelt until removed by a fur dresser or taxidermist at time of preparation.
- possess, loan, or borrow a license or pelt tag belonging to another.
- place your tag on a bobcat, fisher, or otter which has been caught, trapped, or killed by another person (includes those caught in traps set by another person).

## Registration

In addition to exhibiting your bobcat for registration and tagging, you must notify the DNR **within 24 hours** of harvesting a bobcat by calling 1-800-994-6673.

### *You may not:*

- transfer, give, trade, sell, or purchase any bobcat, fisher, or otter pelt unless it bears a DNR registration tag attached by an authorized DNR representative.
- possess bobcat, fisher, or otter pelts *longer than 5 days after the month of harvest* without registering the pelt(s) with an authorized DNR representative.

**See box on page 16 for additional information on registration.**

## Bobcat, Fisher, and Otter Registration

You must skin bobcat, fisher, and otter and separate the pelt from the carcass before registering the pelts at designated DNR registration stations. The only exception is for specimens going to a taxidermist; you must retrieve the carcass from the taxidermist and deliver it to the DNR within 30 days of registration. There is no requirement that bobcat, fisher, or otter be registered in the zone of harvest. All bobcat, fisher, and otter must be registered by a Conservation Warden. Watch for newspaper notices prior to the season, or contact the DNR Call Center (1-888-936-7463 [1-888-WDNRINFo]) for fur tagging dates, times, and locations.

**Carcass Collection for 2012:** The DNR will collect bobcat and otter carcasses statewide, and fisher carcasses from Zones E and F. The DNR retains the carcasses for important species management and research purposes.

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## Incidental Take Policy

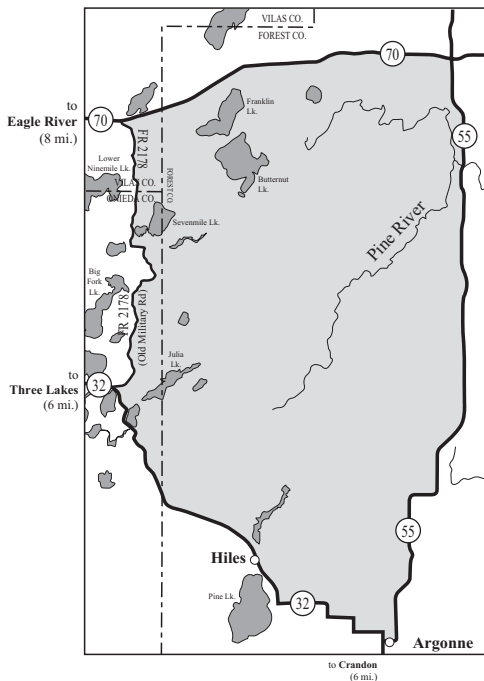
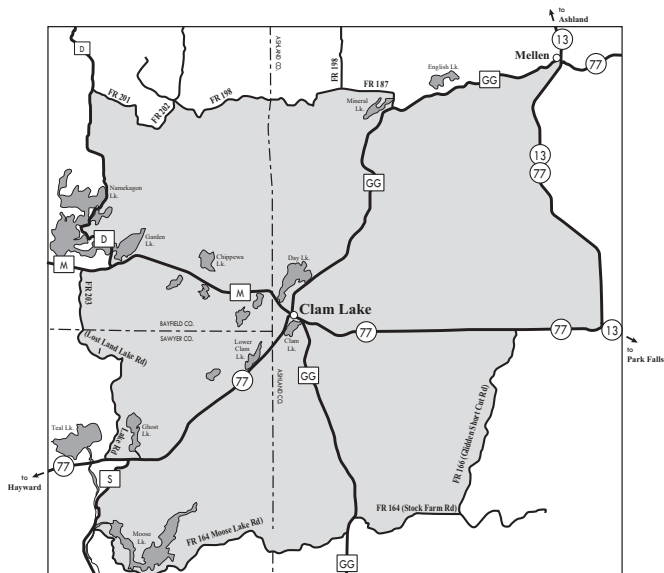
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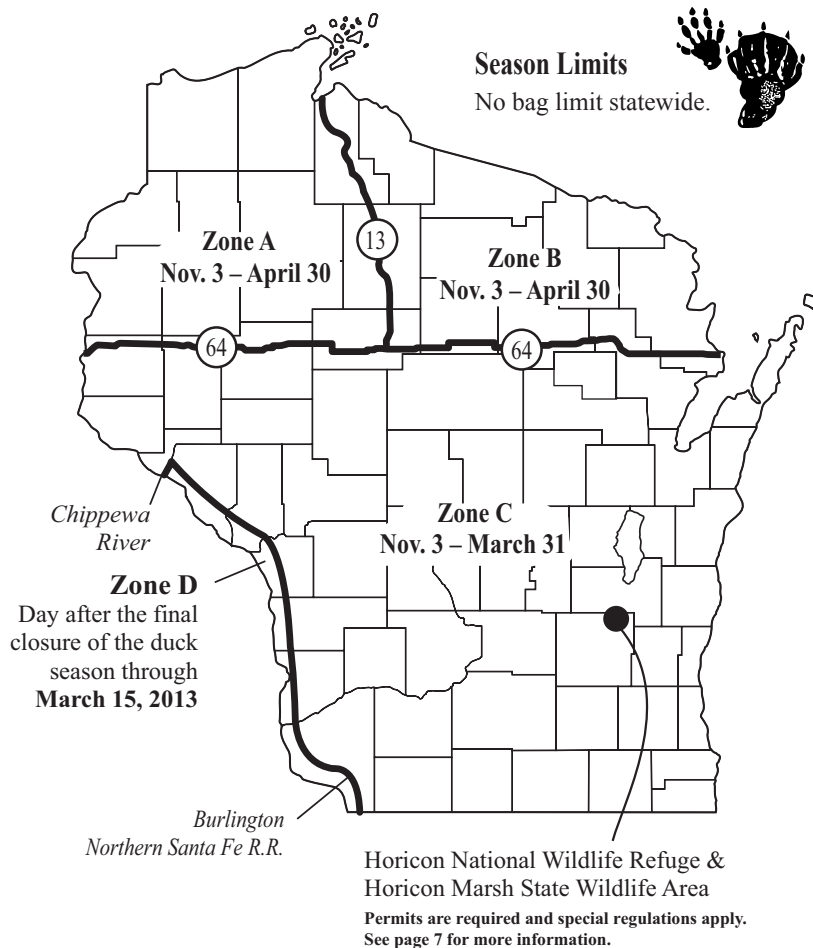
If incidental catch of a protected species occurs, please contact your local Conservation Warden or call 1-800-TIP-WDNR (1-800-847-9367) as soon as possible for instructions on how to release an animal, or if dead, how to transport it to the department. A protected species is any species for which the season is closed, there is no open season, or a person has no authority to possess.

**Note:** American marten are rare and a state endangered species. Please call (1-800-847-9367) to report the incidental take, or restraint and release, as soon as possible. If you catch a marten in a cage trap, please call (715) 365-8856. If you intend to trap near a known marten population please review the marten brochure at [dnr.wi.gov](http://dnr.wi.gov), Keyword: 'marten avoidance'.

## Marten Restoration Areas Open to Forms of Dryland Trapping

Cable restraints and cage or box-type traps may be used on dryland in these areas for species that have an open season. No other traps on dryland are legal.





## Beaver Damage Control

- Landowners, occupants, and family members living with the landowner or occupant may hunt or trap beaver on their land at anytime without a license. If beaver are taken by firearm, the landowner, occupant, or family member harvesting the beaver must be at least 10 years old and comply with firearm possession and hunting mentorship program restrictions (see *2012 Small Game Regulations*). Landowners may also trap on beaver dams. Beaver dams may be removed without a permit by the landowners, lessees, or occupants of land.
- See DNR publication no. WM-007, Beaver Damage Control, or contact the DNR Call Center (1-888-936-7463) for more information.

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## Fisher

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Fisher Management Zones are made up of the following Deer Management Units:

**Zone A**—1, 1M, 2, 3, 4, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 15, 16, 17, 22, 78, and 79

**Zone B**—6, 7, 13, 14, 18, 19, 20, 23, 24, 25, 26, 28, 29A, and 30

**Zone C**—29B, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, and 52

**Zone D**—38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49A, 49B, 50, 51A, and 51B

**Zone E**—27, 53, 55, 56, 57, 57A, 57B, 57C, 58 and 59A

**Zone F**—Remainder of the state.

**Application Deadline: August 1**

### Fisher Management Zones

#### Season Dates

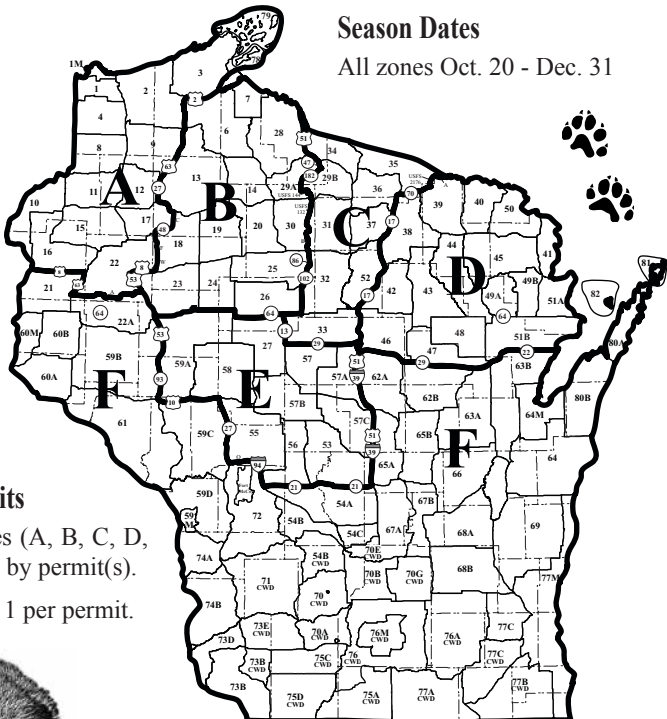
All zones Oct. 20 - Dec. 31



#### Season Limits

Special zones (A, B, C, D, E, & F) **only** by permit(s).


Season limit 1 per permit.

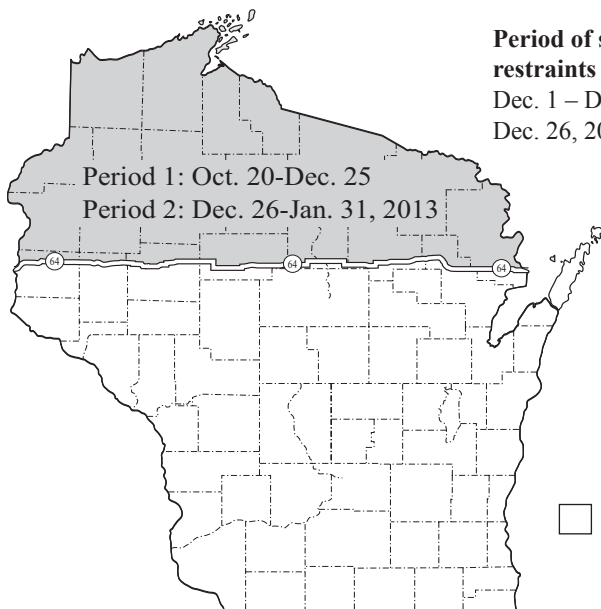


**Note:** In 2012, fisher carcasses will be collected from Zones E and F at time of registration.

## Bobcat

North of Highway 64 only by permit. **Season limit:** one per permit.

 Open to bobcat trapping




**Period of season when cable restraints are allowed:**

Dec. 1 – Dec. 25, 2012

Dec. 26, 2012 - Jan. 31, 2013

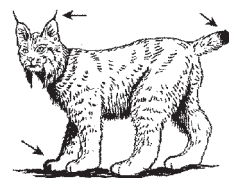


 No open bobcat season south of Hwy. 64

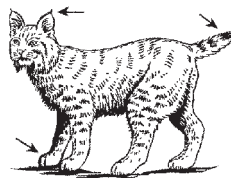
*\* Season may be closed before this date if the harvest quota is reached earlier. Check with the DNR Call Center for information on early closures.*

**Bobcat permit application deadline is August 1. In 2012, bobcat carcasses must be submitted statewide at the time of registration.**

**Canada lynx**, a rare visitor to Wisconsin, is listed as a threatened species by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Please help us protect this unique animal through your careful observation. See illustrations below and if you observe a Canada lynx contact the DNR Call Center at 1-888-936-7463 immediately.



lynx



bobcat

*Lynx are distinguished from bobcat primarily by the tip of their tail, which is completely black. Only the upper half of the tail tip is black on the bobcat. Lynx also have larger ear tufts, are lighter in coloration, have large densely furred feet, and less distinct tracks than bobcat.*

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## Coyote, Raccoon, Red and Gray Fox

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No bag limit statewide.

### Season Dates



#### Statewide

Resident Raccoon	Oct. 20 – Feb. 15, 2013
Non-Resident Raccoon	Nov. 3 – Feb. 15, 2013
Fox	Oct. 20 – Feb. 15, 2013
Coyote	Oct. 20 – Feb. 15, 2013

### Period of Season when Cable Restraints are Allowed



#### Statewide

Fox, Red and Gray	Dec. 1 – Feb. 15, 2013
Coyote	Dec. 1 – Feb. 15, 2013

**Note:** This is the only time during the coyote and fox season when cable restraints may be used.

### Horicon National Wildlife Refuge and Horicon Marsh State Wildlife Area

Trapping at these locations is authorized on a permit system only, and special regulations apply. See page 7 for more information.



#### Mississippi River Zone

*Federal Lands:* On federal lands within the Mississippi River Zone (see page 7), the coyote, raccoon, and fox seasons do not open until the muskrat and mink seasons open.

*Private Lands:* On private lands within the Mississippi River Zone, the coyote, raccoon, and fox seasons open as listed ‘Statewide’ above.

#### Finding Land Open to Trapping

The DNR website provides detailed information about public and public-access lands in your area. Go to [dnr.wi.gov](http://dnr.wi.gov) and search for ‘trapping’. Look for the ‘Where to Trap’ link under the ‘During Your Season’ subheading.

**Voluntary Public Access (VPA)** is a voluntary program that provides financial incentives to private landowners who open their property to public hunting, fishing, trapping, and wildlife observation. Properties open to public access through the VPA program and information on enrolling can be found by visiting [dnr.wi.gov](http://dnr.wi.gov), Keyword: ‘VPA’, or contacting the VPA program coordinator at 608-266-5560.

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## Mink and Muskrat

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### Season Limits

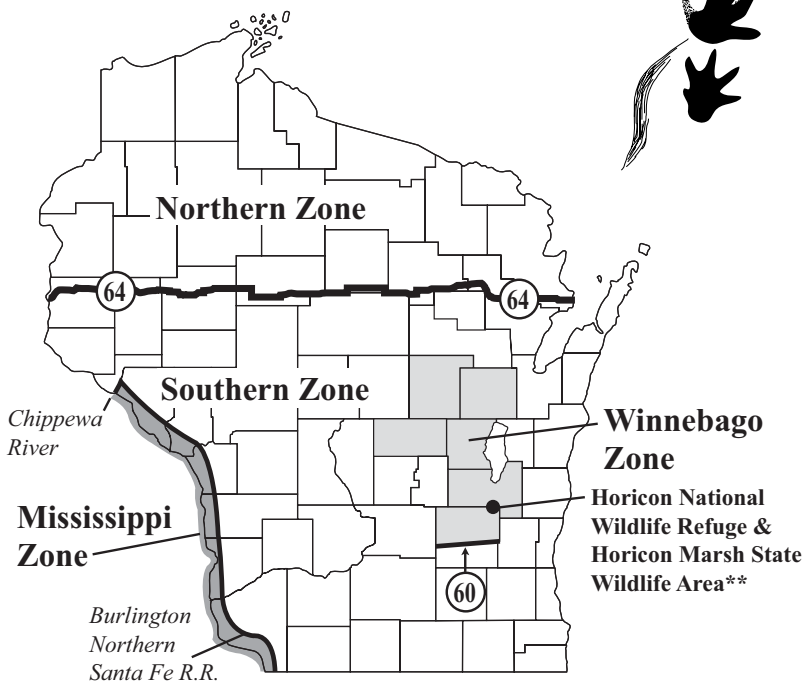
No bag limit statewide.

Zone	Dates
Northern	Oct. 20 – Feb. 28, 2013
Southern	Oct. 27 – Feb. 28, 2013
Winnebago	Oct. 27 – Mar. 15, 2013
Mississippi	* – Feb. 28, 2013

\* Begins the day after duck season closes or the second Monday in November (Nov. 12), whichever occurs first.

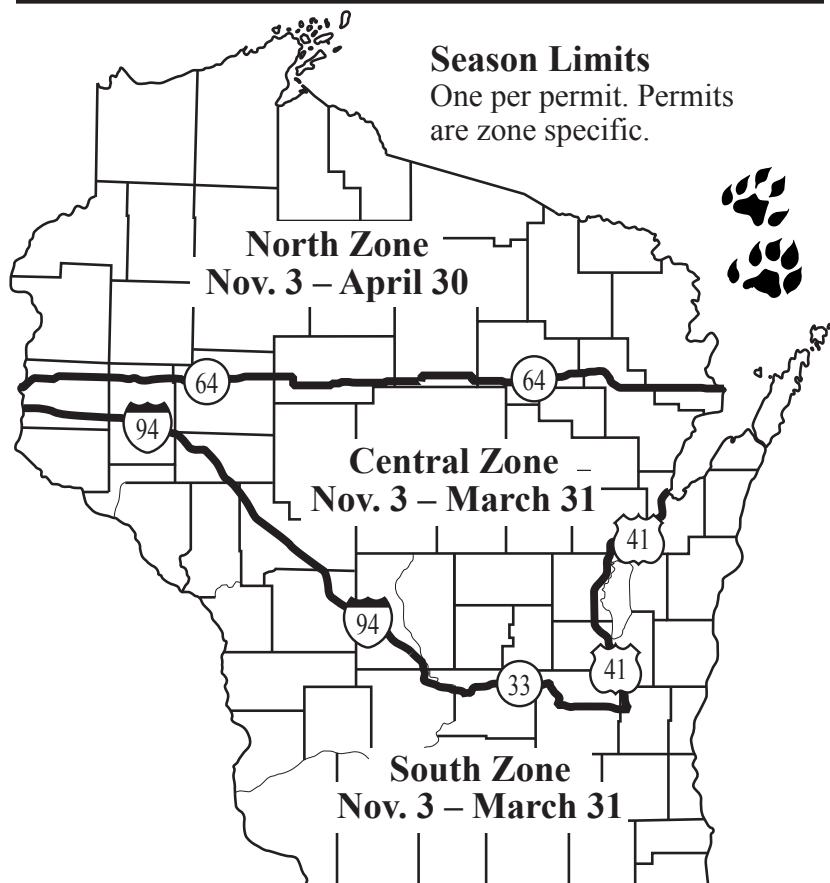


### Mink & Muskrat Zones



\*\*Permits are required and special regulations apply. See page 7 for more information.

**Note:** Muskrats taken while beaver trapping (during beaver season) are legal. See rules listed under 'Trap Size and Placement Restrictions' on page 9.



**Otter permit application deadline is August 1. In 2012, otter carcasses must be submitted statewide at the time of registration.**

### Mississippi River Zone

*Federal Lands:* On federal lands within the Mississippi River Zone (see page 7), the otter season does not open until the muskrat and mink seasons open. Federal rules do not allow trapping on federal refuge lands after March 15.

*Private Lands:* On private lands within the Mississippi River Zone, the otter season opens and closes as listed in the South Zone above.

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## 2011 Results for Fisher Limited Draw and Population Analyses

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Strong interest in fisher harvest resulted in more applicants being submitted than permits were available. Permit numbers were also up in zones A, B, D, E, and F.

There are six fisher management zones in Wisconsin. Southern portions of Zones A through D have the highest fisher populations and are located in the northern portion of the state. Zone E is in west central Wisconsin with a growing fisher population, while Zone F includes the remainder of the state and opened for harvest in 2004.

Zone	State Quota Allocation*	No. of Applicants	Permits Available	Tags per Applicant
Zone A	150	1,405	595	0.42
Zone B	160	1,614	760	0.47
Zone C	90	1,023	575	0.56
Zone D	170	1,460	1,405	0.96
Zone E	195	952	560	0.59
Zone F	195	1,716	1,445	0.85
Applications for a preference point only: 4,991				

\*State quotas reflect tribal declarations in zones A through E

**Note:** Since 1997, a preference system has been in place assuring that all applicants receive equity in drawing permits.

### Population Information

The fisher population in the northern third of Wisconsin grew rapidly during the 1980s. Higher harvest rates during the 1990s slowed or stabilized population growth. During the 1990s, fall population estimates fluctuated around an average of 10,700 fishers, approximately 16% above the population goal of 9,200. Harvests from 2003 through 2011 were generally below the recommended quotas, but we continue to experience a population decline across the north.

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## 2011 Results for Bobcat Limited Draw and Population Analyses

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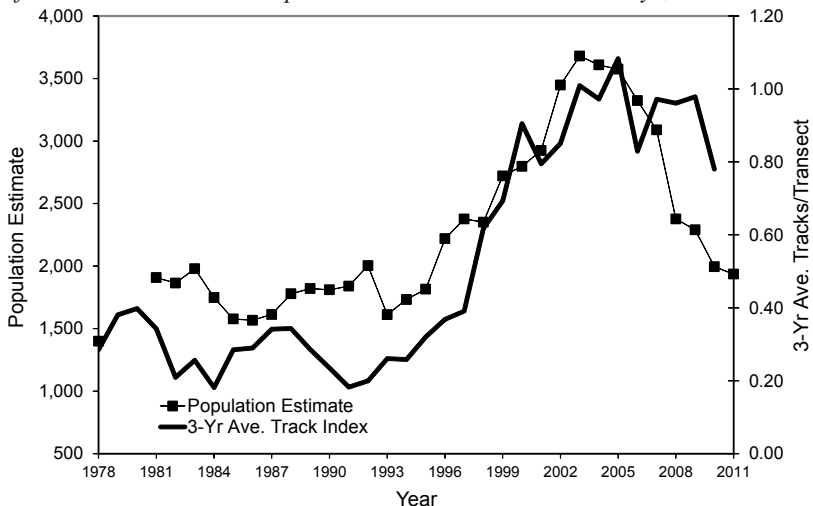
Management efforts have resulted in a bobcat population of approximately 1,700 animals north of Highway 64, with an average annual harvest of around 290 animals over the last six years. Quotas are set in late spring with final permit numbers determined in late summer when success rates are calculated. A preference system allows the continuous applicant a bobcat tag every five to six years, depending on the number of applicants.

As with fisher and otter, bobcat must be tagged at the point of harvest and registered with a Conservation Warden. Hunters and trappers keep the pelt, with all bobcat carcasses collected annually at the time of registration.

Bobcat Harvest Zone – 2011	
Permits Issued	475
Applicants	6,389
Tags per applicant	0.05
Unsuccessful applicants	5,914
Applications for preference point only	5,989

Age data has been collected from almost 5,000 bobcats, with reproductive data collected from 1,510 females since 1983. This information is used to evaluate Wisconsin's bobcat population, and suggests the fall population north of highway 64 has decreased to around 1,700 today (Figure 5).

**Figure 5.** *Prehunt bobcat population estimates and 3-year mean numbers of bobcat tracks observed per transect in winter track surveys, 1978-2011.*



Bobcat population estimates and trends are determined by incorporating data on harvest size, age and sex composition, and reproductive rates into Wisconsin's Bobcat Population Model.

Kits have averaged 22% of the harvest, yearlings 21%, and adults 57%. Examination of 1,510 female reproductive tracts suggest that one-third of yearling females are pregnant and three-fourths of adult females are pregnant each year. The average number of kittens per litter was 2.7. Population trends simulated by the model were compared to data from the Winter Furbearer Track Count survey to assist in verifying population model estimates.

In 2011, the bobcat season was changed to a split season framework. A harvest goal of 380 bobcats was set for 2011. The state quota is split equally between each time period. Permit levels are issued based on previous success rates and adjusted annually.

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## 2011 Results for Otter Limited Draw and Population Analyses

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Current statewide otter populations are at, or below, management goals of approximately 13,000 animals. Although a majority of the population is found in the north, otter numbers in southern Wisconsin appear to be increasing. Permits are issued based on previous trapper success rates, which have increased significantly over the last ten years.

	North Otter Zone	Central Otter Zone	South Otter Zone
Tags Issued	1,685	1,130	1,445
Applicants	3,901	2,674	1,985
Tags per applicant	0.43	0.42	0.73

Applications for preference point only: 4,334

### Population Information

Estimates of Wisconsin's otter population declined approximately 20% from about 15,600 animals in 1996 to 12,500 in the fall of 2003 with a slow increase to approximately 13,000 by the fall of 2006.

Population estimates calculated by the Otter Population Model suggest that the statewide otter population increased rather steadily from approximately 12,600 animals in 1982 to 15,800 in 1994, and recently near 10,300 in 2012. It appears that the population declines substantially when harvest rates exceeded 15% of the preseason population. Harvests have exceeded that level during 5 years between 1996 and 2002. As a result, the statewide otter populations in fall 2002 and 2003 were at, or slightly below, the population goal of "a minimum of 13,000 otters in the state."

### Carcass Collection

In 2012-13, otter carcasses are required to be submitted to the DNR at the time of registration.

Age data has been obtained from 2,863 male and 2,077 female otters. Age distributions were similar between sexes. Kits comprised approximately 45% of the harvest, yearlings about 22%, and adults approximately 33%. Pregnancy rates averaged 33% for yearlings and 73% for adults. Average litter sizes were 1.7 for yearlings and 2.0 for adults. The mean number of embryos per adult female was 2.4.

### Results

Analysis of regional differences in reproductive rates and sex and age composition suggest that region specific data will be needed for development of zone specific population models. The lower yearling pregnancy rates in the Central and South Zones and lower percentage of juvenile males in the harvest in the South Zone, suggest there may be regional differences in habitat quality or prey availability. This could affect regional otter productivity and should be considered in future refinements of harvest management strategies.

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## Best Management Practices

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Trappers and state wildlife agencies continue to develop ‘Best Management Practices’ (BMPs) for trapping in the United States. Trapping BMPs are documents that identify techniques and traps that address the welfare of trapped animals and allow for the efficient, selective, safe and practical capture of furbearers. BMPs are methods to improve trapping by developing recommendations using sound science. They are developed through actual field tests and careful data collection. The information is provided to state agencies and trappers for voluntary use in their trapper education and furbearer management programs.

Wisconsin has been involved in the BMP process since it began in 1997. BMPs are intended to inform people about traps and trapping systems considered to be state-of-the-art in animal welfare and efficiency, and explain how some existing traps can be modified to enhance animal welfare. ***To date, initial BMP studies and publications have been completed for eastern coyote, western coyote, red fox, gray fox, kit fox, weasels, raccoon, bobcat, opossum, nutria, river otter, muskrat, mink, fisher, marten, and beaver.***

A Wisconsin 3-year study was completed in 2003 resulting in the publication ***Cable Restraints in Wisconsin – A Guide to Responsible Use (WM-443)*** and the legal use of cable restraints in Wisconsin.

### Public Impressions of Trapping

In 2000, the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (AFWA), who led this huge BMP effort, selected Connecticut, Indiana, and Wisconsin as pilot states to examine public perceptions of trapping. Not only did we learn that 71% of the Wisconsin public supports regulated trapping, but we discovered a number of messages important to the public. These ‘key messages’ are:

- Regulated trapping does not cause wildlife to become threatened or endangered.
- Trapping is managed through scientifically-based regulations strictly enforced by Wisconsin Conservation Wardens.
- Wisconsin DNR, with input from stakeholders, continually reviews and develops rules, regulations, education programs, and capture methods that consider animal welfare.
- Regulated trapping provides many benefits including reducing wildlife damage to crops and property and reducing threats to human health and safety.

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### Why are BMPs needed?

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- To ensure the continued responsible management of wildlife resources;
- To continue the process of improving traps and trapping methods that will maintain and improve animal welfare;
- To maintain public acceptance through a reduction in real and perceived problems associated with trapping; and
- To sustain regulated trapping now and in the future, and to maintain the integrity of furbearer management programs throughout the United States.

Trapping will only prosper and continue if the trapping community, along with natural resource agencies, work together to improve harvest systems and promote the humane treatment of animals. Thanks for your support!

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## Boat Regulations

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### *Prevent the Spread of Disease and Exotic Species*

#### **Viral Hemorrhagic Septicemia (VHS)**

In order to prevent the spread of the VHS virus and invasive species, **all water must be drained from all boats, boat trailers, boating equipment, and other gear immediately after removing from water, bank, or shore of ALL waters of the state.**

#### **Aquatic Invasive Species**

Aquatic invasive species crowd out native plants and animals as well as threaten the quality of regulated trapping in wetlands. To prevent this, the law requires removal of all aquatic plants and animals attached to the exterior of all vehicles, boat trailers, equipment, or gear before transporting on any roadway. **Drain** any water from boat and equipment before leaving the wetland. **Spray/rinse** these items with hot and/or high pressure water and **allow to dry** preferably for at least 5 days. **Wisconsin state statutes prohibits launching a boat, boat trailer, or boating equipment if there are any aquatic plants or animals attached.** Visit [dnr.wi.gov](http://dnr.wi.gov), Keyword: 'aquatic invasive species' for more information.

#### **Please - Don't Move Firewood**

Firewood can harbor many different kinds of invasive pests and diseases that are harmful to Wisconsin's trees - both in forest and urban settings. Gypsy moth, oak wilt, and the emerald ash borer are just a few examples.

To help protect trees in state parks and forests, the Wisconsin DNR does not allow firewood **from more than 25 miles away**, from outside of Wisconsin, or from areas quarantined for certain pests and diseases onto any DNR properties.

**Details can be found online at [dnr.wi.gov](http://dnr.wi.gov), Keyword: 'firewood', or by phone at: 1-877-303-WOOD (9663).**

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# Trapper Education Course

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## Wisconsin Cooperative Trapper Education Program (WCTEP)

*[dnr.wi.gov](http://dnr.wi.gov), keyword: *trapper ed**

A Cooperative Trapper Education Program  
of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources  
and Wisconsin Trappers Association



## Why Trapper Education?

We believe that trappers create a good image when they engage in responsible and ethical pursuit of our furbearing resource. Trapper Education teaches new or inexperienced trappers ethical trapping procedures, the most humane trapping methods, the history of trapping in Wisconsin and North America, and basic wildlife management principles. It is also important for trappers to learn and understand the importance of maintaining good relationships with landowners, other outdoor enthusiasts, and managers of our natural resources. The Wisconsin Trapper Education course provides a solid beginning to trapping education — an education you will use everyday on the trapline.

## Who must attend?

All first-time trappers must complete the Wisconsin Trapper Education course prior to purchasing a trapping license. It is recommended that you be at least 10 years old to attend this class. Class size may be limited, so early registration is recommended. No late applications will be accepted. **Note:** You must have a DNR customer ID number prior to the first class. Call 1-888-936-7463 to obtain this number.

*Persons exempt from this requirement must have purchased a Wisconsin trapping license on or before May 12, 1992 or be actively engaged in farming in Wisconsin as defined by State Statute 102.04(3), AND must be a current Wisconsin resident.*

## Where and when are the classes held?

Classes will be held in communities statewide and each instructor sets their own class schedule. Commonly the course requires 3-4 evening sessions and one weekend morning or afternoon. Class locations are available by contacting instructors or viewing our website at [dnr.wi.gov](http://dnr.wi.gov), Keyword: 'trapper education'.

## What does it cost?

The fee for most courses is \$12.00 payable to the Wisconsin Cooperative Trapper Education Program. This includes all your instruction materials. Some overnight workshops may have a higher fee if meals are provided.

## What you will learn

The course is designed to provide classroom time and outdoor practice time. A written exam, which you must pass in order to successfully complete the course, will be given at the end of the last session.

The course includes:

- trapping history and highlights in wildlife conservation;
- role of trapping today;
- principles of wildlife management;
- wetland values;
- furbearer management, biology, and disease;
- trapping laws and ethics;
- trap preparation, adjustment, setting, and safety;
- humane trapping methods;
- pelt preparation, skinning, grading, and marketing; and
- practice setting dry land sets and water sets.

## **The instructors**

Each of the certified Trapper Education Instructors in Wisconsin have completed a WTA-DNR Instructor course. All instructors, including department personnel, are experienced trappers.

## **Instructional materials provided**

A student manual, set of Wisconsin trapping regulations, graduate card, arm patch, and your first year's trapping license (Wisconsin residents only) are provided to successful graduates of this course.

## **Where can you get more information and how do you sign up?**

On the map on page 31, locate the district where you live, then find the district coordinator for that district. Contact him or her to get details on course dates, times, locations, and the name of the instructor nearest you. If you cannot reach a district coordinator, contact the Statewide Coordinator, or DNR Trapper Education Coordinator, 101 South Webster St., Madison, WI 53707-7921.

## **Correspondence course**

A five-week correspondence course is available for students who cannot attend the regular Trapper Education course classes.

**Wisconsin Residents:** The fee for the course is \$12.00. The deposit for the NTA handbook and WTA video is \$13.00. If both materials are returned in good condition, you will receive a check for your full deposit. Your deposit check will be \$6.50 if only one of these is returned. If neither are returned prior to returning the final exam, no deposit check will be sent.

**Nonresidents:** The fee for the course is \$28.00. The deposit for the NTA handbook and WTA video is \$17.00. If both materials are returned in good condition, you will receive a check for your full deposit. Your deposit check will be \$8.50 if only one of these is returned. If neither are returned prior to returning the final exam, no deposit check will be sent.

## **How do I start the correspondence course?**

**Wisconsin Residents:** Send a \$25.00 check or money order payable to WCTEP, and mail it to: WCTEP, P.O. Box 26, Boscobel, WI 53805.

**Nonresidents:** Send a \$45.00 check or money order payable to WCTEP, and mail it to the: WCTEP, P.O. Box 26, Boscobel, WI 53805.

For more information on the correspondence course, contact Mike Widner, Correspondence Course Director, at (608) 356-3621 or [muskrat\\_mike@yahoo.com](mailto:muskrat_mike@yahoo.com).

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## Trapper Education Coordinators

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### WCTEP Statewide Coordinator

Nicke Shumaker  
P.O. Box 28  
Caroline, WI 54928  
(715) 754-2121  
WCTEP@frontier.com

### WCTEP Correspondence Course Coordinator

Mike Widner  
P.O. Box 26  
Boscobel, WI 53805  
(608) 356-3621  
muskrat\_mike@yahoo.com

### DNR Trapper Education Coordinator

(608) 261-6452

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## Wisconsin Cooperative Trapper Education Districts

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### District 1

Steve Hoffman  
102 E Crex Ave  
Grantsburg, WI 54840  
Work (715) 463-2896  
Home (715) 463-5439  
steven.hoffman@  
wisconsin.gov

### District 2

Dean Gullickson  
9924 Hwy Q  
Chippewa Falls, WI 54729  
(715) 720-0810  
dgullickson@att.net

### District 3

Mike Kortenhof  
4033 Hwy D  
Rhineland, WI 54501  
(715) 272-1358

### District 4

Richard Clark  
7610 County B West  
Coleman, WI 54112  
(920) 897-3618  
clarks@cybrzn.com

### District 5

Junior Prudlick  
PO Box 505  
Strum, WI 54770  
(715) 695-3675  
prudlickdj@triwest.net

### District 6

Al Nickel  
2663 Green Grove Lane  
Nekoosa, WI 54457  
(715) 570-8718  
afivecents@yahoo.com

### District 7

Steve O'Krueg  
7720 Country Club Rd  
Oshkosh, WI 54902  
(920) 688-3254  
allok@peoplepc.com

### District 8

Chris Bezio  
5479 Hawthorn Dr  
Pulaski, WI 54162  
(920) 822-3427

### District 9

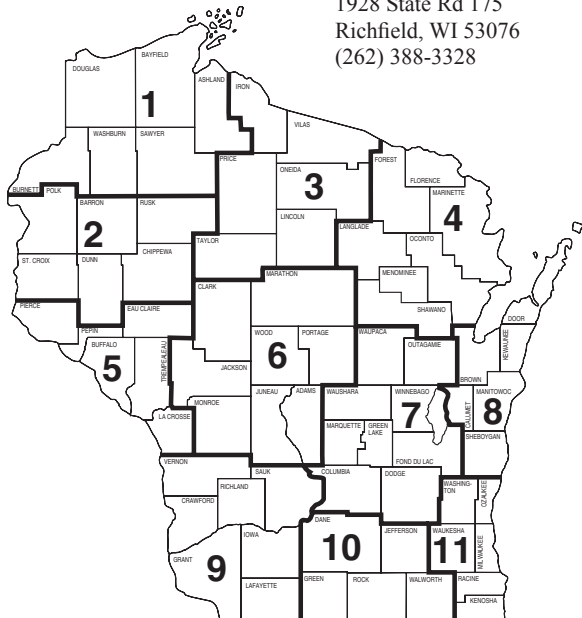
Dennis Knuth  
217 Clark Street  
Reedsburg, WI 53959  
(608) 524-2255

### District 10

Larry Meyer  
11921 E Pioneer Rd  
Whitewater, WI 53190  
(262) 473-2794

### District 11

Earl Klippel, Jr.  
1928 State Rd 175  
Richfield, WI 53076  
(262) 388-3328



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## Questions?

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**Call the DNR Call Center toll-free or visit the website at:**

1-888-WDNR INFO (1-888-936-7463) • local 608-266-2621.

Staff are available 7 days a week from 7:00 A.M. until 10:00 P.M.

*Spanish and Hmong are spoken*

***dnr.wi.gov***

General mailing address:

Department of Natural Resources  
P.O. Box 7921, Madison, WI 53707



Scan the QR Code (at left) with your Smartphone to access the DNR Call Center phone number



**Wisconsin Trappers Association**

**P.O. Box 305**

**Oregon, WI 53575-0305**

The content of this pamphlet was prepared by the Department of Natural Resources. Part of the printing costs were paid for by the Wisconsin Trappers Association.

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## Website Information

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For more information on furbearer management and trapping issues:

- Wisconsin DNR: [dnr.wi.gov](http://dnr.wi.gov); Keyword: 'trapping'
- Wisconsin Trappers Association (WTA): [www.wistrap.org/](http://www.wistrap.org/)
- Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (AFWA):  
[http://www.fishwildlife.org/index.php?section=furbearer\\_](http://www.fishwildlife.org/index.php?section=furbearer_management&activator=27)  
[management&activator=27](http://www.fishwildlife.org/index.php?section=furbearer_management&activator=27)

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## Support Ethical Responsible Trapping • Report Violations

**CALL:** 1-800-TIP-WDNR (1-800-847-9367; toll free) or #367 from your U.S.

Cellular phone. **Note:** This is **NOT** an information number.

**TEXT:** Text a tip to TIP-411 (847-411), only available from 7 A.M. - 10 P.M.

Standard text rates apply.

**EMAIL:** [LE.hotline@wisconsin.gov](mailto:LE.hotline@wisconsin.gov).